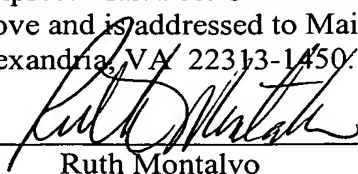




EXPRESS MAIL mailing label No. **EV 304 055 691** US Date of Deposit **January 2, 2004**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents; P.O Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Ruth Montalvo

  
Date

Docket No.:GK-HEF-964/500639.20031

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Bernhard Duelli et al

Serial No. 10/607,621

Confirmation No.: 8023

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: REGULATING VACUUM VALVE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to receipt of a first office action, please amend the above-identified application  
as follows: